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Letter from the President

Dear Chapter Presidents and Advisors,

I hope this newsletter finds all of you nearing the end of a successful spring term or semester. The best of luck on exams and to those of you who are graduating, congratulations!

The 2015 AAEA and WAEA Joint Annual Meeting is quickly approaching. It is never too early to make travel accommodations and hotel reservations. There are many exciting attractions in the San Francisco area, so if you are able to spend some additional time before or after your trip, take advantage of what San Francisco has to offer!

We are expecting over 1,300 participants to attend the 2015 AAEA and WAEA Joint Annual Meeting. This year's conference will be exciting and worth the travel. We will be having two keynote speakers, Karen Ross from the California Department of Food and Agriculture and David Lobell from Stanford University in addition to our concurrent sessions and plenary sessions. These keynote speakers, different sessions and our new competition will make this year's conference one your University will not want to miss!

As time goes on I become more and more nostalgic as my participation in the Academic Bowl nears its end. I was so amazed by last year's competition and conference I know San Francisco will only continue to impress. I hope everyone is preparing, studying and getting ready for this summer's events. I wish all of all you nothing but success in the years to come and I look forward to seeing you all in San Francisco!

As always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns or if I can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Rozalyn Patrick

Schedule of Events

Sunday, July 26

12:00pm – 2:00pm Earl O. Heady Decision Sciences Spreadsheet Competition
3:00pm – 5:30pm Student Paper Competition
6:00pm – 7:00pm AAEA Keynote Address David Dickey, NCSU
7:00pm – 9:00pm Student Mixer and Academic Bowl Orientation

Monday, July 27

8:00am – 4:00pm Academic Bowl
11:30am – 1pm Karen Ross, CA Dept. of Food & Ag Speaker Series Luncheon
6:00pm – 6:30pm Academic Bowl Finals
6:30pm – 7:30pm AAEA Fellows and Annual Awards Ceremony
8:00pm – 9:00pm Student Section Business Meeting

Tuesday, July 28

9:45am – 6:00pm AAEA Concurrent Sessions
11:30am – 12:45pm WAEA Presidential Address/Business Meeting/Awards
6:15pm – 7:15pm AAEA Galbraith Forum Anne Case, Princeton University



Important Dates: 2015

- **May 31:** Paper Competition Statement of Intent Form due.
- **May 31:** Earl O. Heady Decision Sciences Spreadsheet Competition Statement of Intent Form due.
- **June 30:** Submissions for Paper Competition due.
- **June 30:** Submissions for EOHDS Spreadsheet Competition due.
- **June 30:** Submissions for Outstanding Chapter Award Competition due.
- **June 30:** Submissions for Creative Club Award Competition due.
- **June 30:** Academic Bowl Registration due.
- **July 26:** Paper Competition presentations.
- **July 26:** EOHDS Spreadsheet Competition presentations.
- **July 26:** Academic Bowl Orientation & Student Mixer.
- **July 27:** Academic Bowl.
- **June 27:** AAEA Awards Ceremony.
- **July 27:** SS-AAEA Business Meeting.

New this year!

- Student registration has been reduced from \$50 to **\$20** for the AAEA conference! All students attending the conference will need to be registered.
- **Earl O. Heady Decision Sciences Spreadsheet Competition:** The addition of this spreadsheet competition represents an additional area for students to showcase their applied economics knowledge. The competition focuses on practical applications and skills in Excel. For more information, please see the SS-AAEA website at <http://www.aaea.org/membership/sections/ss-aaea>.

San Francisco

We hope each and every one of you has enjoyed the Spring semester! As the Spring semester comes to an end it's time to prepare for the 2015 AAEA National Conference in San Francisco. The officers can't wait to meet new and see familiar faces in the home of the 2014 World Series Champions, the San Francisco Giants. We encourage all of you who are making the long trek to spend some time seeing historic sights such as the Golden Gate, Union Square, Alcatraz, and so much more!

We are excited to announce a more concise schedule of events that will allow chapters either the opportunity to save funding on lodging during their journey to the meetings and/or allow students an extra day for exploring San Francisco.

Room Sharing

For those smaller chapters that would like to combine for lodging with other Universities please contact Sierra Howry at sierra.howry@uwrf.edu so arrangements can be made. Looking forward to see you there!

Making the Trip

As the SS-AAEA officer team, we understand the financial commitment made by universities, chapters, and individuals to attend the AAEA and WAEA Joint Annual Meeting. To increase chapter participation and make the trip financial feasible, we encourage chapters to begin planning for the trip now! Practices we encourage are:

- **Airfare:** Book now! If your school or department makes use of a travel agent, ask to utilize their services. They will be more familiar with best airlines to fly and best times to book flights. If booking your own flights, six weeks out is usually the best time buy tickets. By using services such as Kayak or Bing's price predictor, you may be able to predict if airfares will decrease more or rise.
- **Room sharing:** As mentioned above, smaller chapters are encouraged to sign up for room sharing. It's a great opportunity to make new friends and help offset costs!
- **Fundraising:** Fundraising or soliciting sponsorships for your trip may be possible. If your chapter or university has established relationships with agribusinesses in your community, writing a letter asking for donations to present or participate in the 2015 AAEA and WAEA Annual Meetings may be appropriate. Also, if you are a campus- sanctioned club, you may be eligible to apply for the CHS Foundation Mini-Grants. For more information, please visit: <http://www.chsinc.com/stewardship/leadership-development>.



Academic Bowl Orientation and Student Mixer

The Academic Bowl Orientation and Student Mixer serves as way to review official rules and the tournament schedule. At the mixer, students are also encouraged to ask questions about availability of leadership roles within the SS-AAEA, socialize with fellow students, and ensure understanding of the structure of the Academic Bowl.

Academic Bowl Competition

- Preliminary rounds of the Academic Bowl Competition will be held from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm on Monday, July 27th.
- The finals of the Academic Bowl Competition will be held at 6:00pm prior to the AAEA awards ceremony.
- Formal rules and software for the Academic Bowl can be found online at the SS-AAEA website.

Paper Competition

- Statement of Intent Form to submit a paper to the paper competition is due May 31. The complete submission of the paper will be due on June 30.
- Information upon the submission process can be found online at the SS-AAEA website.
- Papers have the opportunity to be published on the SS-AAEA website.

Outstanding Chapter and Creative Club Competitions

- Criteria for Outstanding and Creative Club Award can be found at the SS-AAEA website.
- Applications will be due June 30.

*Earl O. Heady Decision Sciences Spreadsheet Competition- **New this year!***

- Requirements for the competition include: spreadsheet, poster, and brief presentation.
- Further submission details can be found on the SS-AAEA website.